

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SWF-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGSC PFOR, EEC, GR, TU

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY RELATIONS WITH GREECE AND TURKEY

REF: A. EC BRUSSELS 6747

B. EC BRUSSELS 6553

1. SUMMARY. EC COMMISSION OFFICIALS ANTICIPATE THAT THE ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MEETING WITH TURKEY SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 14 WILL PRODUCE ONLY GENERALITIES ABOUT COOPERATION NOTHING NEW. THE GREEK ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MEETING WILL PROBABLY BE HELD IN DECEMBER. THE DELAY IS CAUSED LARGELY BY THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMPLEXITY OF THE ISSUES, NOT A DIMINUTION OF POLITICAL WILL

ON THE PART OF THE COMMUNITY. AGRICULTURE, AS USUAL, IS THE STUMBLING BLOCK. END SUMMARY.

2. IN A TOUR D'HORIZON WITH COMMISSION OFFICIALS ON EC RELATIONS WITH GREECE AND TURKEY, THE FOLLOWING POINTS EMERGED: THE GREEK ASSOCIATION COUNCIL WILL PROBABLY NOT MEET BEFORE DECEMBER BUT THE DELAY IS LARGELY DUE TO THE COMPLEXITY OF THE ISSUES RATHER THAN A TAPERING OFF OF THE COMMUNITY'S RESOLVE TO COOPERATE WITH THE NEW REGIME. THE WORK IS GOING FORWARD BUT THE ISSUES ARE COMPLICATED. THE COUNCIL HAS ALREADY RESPONDED TO THE GREEK AIDE-MEMOIRE (REFTEL B) REQUESTING REACTIVATION OF THE GREEK-EC ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT, THE MAIN PROPOSALS OF WHICH ARE:

- A. A PROTOCOL TO APPLY THE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT TO THE ENLARGED COMMUNITY;
- B. AN INTERMEDIATE AGREEMENT TO PUT THE TRADE BENEFITS OF SUCH AN AGREEMENT INTO EFFECT PRIOR TO ITS RATIFICATION;
- C. THE FREEING OF THE \$55 MILLION OF EIB FUNDS;
- D. NEGOTIATION OF A NEW FINANCIAL PROTOCOL MAKING ADDITIONAL FUNDS AVAILABLE TO GREECE;
- E. ACTIVATION OF THE NORMAL INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN THE EC AND GREECE.

3. THE MOST DIFFICULT PROBLEM AND THE ONE THAT CAUSED THE GREEKS TO TURN DOWN THE COMMUNITY'S OFFER FOR AN ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 17 IS AGRICULTURAL HARMONIZATION. THE COUNCIL LETTER PROPOSED, AS PART OF THE EXTENSION OF THE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT TO THE THREE NEW EC MEMBERS, A SECTION MAKING REGULATIONS ON GREEK WINE EXPORTS TO THE COMMUNITY. THE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT WAS WRITTEN. THE RESULT OF THIS SECTION WOULD BE UNFAVORABLE TO GREEK WINE EXPORTS, AND THE GREEKS WISH TO HAVE IT DELETED. OUR SOURCES SAY THIS COULD BE A THORNY PROBLEM AND ONE ON WHICH THERE IS NOT APT TO BE MUCH GIVE AMONG THE MEMBER STATES.

4. THE TURKISH ASSOCIATION COUNCIL WILL MEET ON OCTOBER 14. THIS MEETING HAS BEEN SCHEDULED SINCE EARLY IN THE SUMMER. THUS, THE HOLDING OF A TURKISH ASSOCIATION COUNCIL BEFORE THE GREEK DOES NOT INDICATE THAT THE COMMUNITY IS FAVORING TURKEY OVER GREECE. PREPARATIONS FOR THE MEETING HAVE NOT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BEEN PARTICULARLY SUCCESSFUL, AND COMMISSION OFFICIALS DOUBT THAT ANYTHING MORE THAN PLATITUDINOUS DECLARATIONS WILL RESULT.

5. THE COMMISSION CONTINUES TO BE VERY SENSITIVE TO THE PROBLEM OF ESTABLISHING BALANCES IN ITS RELATIONS BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY. WHILE FULL GREEK MEMBERSHIP CONTINUES TO BE ONLY A LONG-RANGE GOAL, ONE COMMISSION SOURCE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE GREEKS, WHO CURRENTLY BELONG TO A CUSTOMS UNION WITH THE EC

AFFECTING SIXTY TO SEVENTY PERCENT OF THEIR TRADE, ARE REALLY MUCH CLOSER ECONOMICALLY TO BEING ABLE TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF MEMBERSHIP THAN MOST PEOPLE BELIEVE. THIS SOURCE ADMITTED, HOWEVER, THAT GRANTING MEMBERSHIP TO GREECE AND NOT TO TURKEY WOULD RAISE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT POLITICAL PROBLEMS WHICH COULD BE SUFFICIENTLY IMPORTANT TO RULE IT OUT AS A POSSIBILITY IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE. IN SHORT, THE COMMISSION IS TRYING TO MAINTAIN AN EVENLY BALANCED POLICY BETWEEN BOTH. GREENWALD

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